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C-19

22 January 1951

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. Allan Evans, Department of State
Mr. Charles Stelle, Department of State
Dr. Max Millikan, Central Intelligence Agency
[redacted], Central Intelligence Agency
[redacted] Central Intelligence Agency
Mr. James G. Reber, Central Intelligence Agency

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SUBJECT: Psychological Intelligence

1. As a result of the discussion held on Friday, 19 January 1951, there was agreement:

a. that it was proper and necessary in view of reorganization in Central Intelligence to put the main reliance for the intelligence support in the field of psychological warfare in the State Department Intelligence area;

b. that, along with this, there should probably be placed the responsibility for taking the leadership in coordination among the agencies but that this coordinating responsibility should not imply that the State Department had to conduct the coordination on every problem. The State Department must know what relationships are necessary and see that they are effected as continuously and as efficiently as necessary, whether that be between two agencies or all of them;

c. that the role of the BCI in this problem lay in seeing that the responsibilities for covering the parts of the field were clearly placed and in providing any necessary assistance for achieving satisfactory coordination and production.

2. Specific attention was given to the problem of intelligence support of OPC in the psychological field. In general OPC requests should be levied on State's intelligence organization although it was recognized that at times it might more satisfactorily secure the specialized answer by going directly to the intelligence producing organization.

3. Dr. Millikan expressed concern that through the failure to place total responsibility within a single organization for the total production of psychological intelligence we would suffer from the shortcomings of decentralization so characteristic when a complicated problem is split up and assigned to a number of organizations.

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4. Further action: Reber will prepare a draft memorandum from the DCI to Mr. Armstrong proposing the foregoing conclusions (paragraph 1 and 2) as a basis for getting ahead with this research as between the two agencies and as it relates to the work of the Government. The draft of this will be cleared with the interested parties before it goes forward.

5. It was proposed that the military should be consulted regarding these plans at the appropriate time. It was also proposed that at the appropriate time consideration be given to the liaison arrangements necessary between the foregoing intelligence arrangements and the psychological warfare planners and policy makers.

JAMES Q. REBER
Acting Assistant Director,
Intelligence Coordination

DISTRIBUTION:

Mr. Allan Evans & Mr. Steele
Dr. Max Millikan

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[Redacted]
Mr. Lyman Kirkpatrick

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[Redacted]
Mr. Allen Dulles

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MEMORANDUM FOR: SPECIAL ASSISTANT, INTELLIGENCE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT: Psychological Intelligence

1. Authorized officers in our respective agencies have discussed in detail problems incident to the production of intelligence in support of psychological warfare. In order to clarify this aspect of the re-organization of this Agency, as it bears upon the rearrangements and renewed emphasis in the work of your intelligence organization, it is proposed that the responsibility for intelligence support to psychological warfare (planning and operations) except for military and scientific aspects, be centered in your organization. It is further proposed that because of the great interest of the State Department in this subject and the fact that the preponderance of such intelligence support falls within the fields of production assigned by NSCID No. 2 to the State Department, the responsibility for coordination of the work in this field among the other agencies should also rest with you. It is believed that in the interests of effectiveness your office should be cognizant of all intelligence research projects in this field, should stimulate and arrange for the coordination of these projects in the national interest.
2. The foregoing has been discussed with the military intelligence agencies and meets with their approval.
3. If you concur in this proposal it would be appreciated if you would so indicate on the attached copy and return it to me.

WILLIAM H. JACKSON

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